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March 22, 2021

ENGROSSED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 1967

By: Nollan of the House

and

Pemberton of the Senate

An Act relating to public safety; amending 47 O.S. 2011, Section 11-705, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 145, O.S.L. 2019 (47 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 11-705), which relates to meeting or overtaking a school bus; modifying time frame for reporting certain violation; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 11-705, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 145, O.S.L. 2019 (47 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 11-705), is amended to read as follows:

Section 11-705. A. The driver of a vehicle meeting or overtaking a school bus that is stopped to take on or discharge school children, and on which the red loading signals are in operation, is to stop the vehicle before it reaches the school bus and not proceed until the loading signals are deactivated and then proceed past such school bus at a speed which is reasonable and with due caution for the safety of such school children and other occupants. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this

1 subsection shall be punished by a fine of not less than One Hundred  
2 Dollars (\$100.00). In addition to the fine, a special assessment of  
3 One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) shall be assessed, of which seventy-  
4 five percent (75%) shall be deposited to the credit of the Cameras  
5 for School Bus Stops Revolving Fund established in Section ~~2~~ 9-119  
6 of ~~this act~~ Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The remaining  
7 twenty-five percent (25%) of the special assessment shall be  
8 deposited to the credit of the reviewing law enforcement agency  
9 referred to in subsection E of this section.

10 B. Visual signals, meeting the requirements of Section 12-228  
11 of this title, shall be actuated by the driver of said school bus  
12 whenever, but only whenever, such vehicle is stopped on the highway  
13 for the purpose of receiving or discharging school children.

14 C. The driver of a vehicle upon a highway with separate  
15 roadways need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus which is  
16 on a different roadway or when upon a controlled-access highway and  
17 the school bus is stopped in a loading zone which is a part of or  
18 adjacent to such highway and where pedestrians are not permitted to  
19 cross the roadway.

20 D. If the driver of a school bus witnesses a violation of the  
21 provisions of subsection A of this section, ~~within twenty-four (24)~~  
22 ~~hours of the alleged offense~~ on or before the next day school is in  
23 session following the alleged offense, the driver shall report the  
24 violation, the vehicle color, license tag number, and the time and

1 place such violation occurred to the law enforcement authority of  
2 the municipality where the violation occurred. The law enforcement  
3 authority of a municipality shall issue a letter of warning on the  
4 alleged violation to the person in whose name the vehicle is  
5 registered. The Office of the Attorney General shall provide a form  
6 letter to each municipal law enforcement agency in this state for  
7 the issuance of the warning provided for in this subsection. Such  
8 form letter shall be used by each such law enforcement agency in the  
9 exact form provided for by the Office of the Attorney General. A  
10 warning letter issued pursuant to this subsection shall not be  
11 recorded on the driving record of the person to whom such letter was  
12 issued. Issuance of a warning letter pursuant to this section shall  
13 not preclude the imposition of other penalties as provided by law.

14 E. 1. A school district may install and operate a video-  
15 monitoring system in or on the school buses or the bus stop-arms  
16 operated by the district or contract with a private vendor to do so  
17 on behalf of the school district for the purpose of recording  
18 violations of subsection A of this section. In the event the video-  
19 monitoring system captures a recording of a violation of subsection  
20 A of this section, appropriate personnel at the school district  
21 shall extract data related to the violation from the recording. The  
22 extracted data shall include a recorded image or video containing  
23 the requirements listed in paragraph 2 of this subsection. The  
24 school district shall submit the extracted data for review to the

1 law enforcement agency with jurisdiction in which the violation  
2 occurred. If the reviewing law enforcement agency determines there  
3 is sufficient evidence to identify the vehicle and the driver, such  
4 evidence shall be submitted to the district attorney's office for  
5 prosecution.

6 2. For the purposes of this subsection, "video-monitoring  
7 system" means a system with one or more camera sensors and computers  
8 installed and operated on a school bus that produces live digital  
9 and recorded video of motor vehicles being operated in violation of  
10 subsection A of this section. The system shall, at a minimum,  
11 produce a recorded image of the license plate of the vehicle, an  
12 identifiable picture of the driver's face, the activation status of  
13 at least one warning device as prescribed in Section 12-228 of this  
14 title and the time, date and location of the vehicle when the image  
15 was recorded.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

17 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY  
18 March 22, 2021 - DO PASS  
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